



Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

New Information in Blue Text

Event Name	22-0009 Wildfire Outbreak 17MAR
Date	March 18, 2022
Time	9:00 AM
Operational Period	7:00 AM March 17 to 8:00 AM March 18 2022
Report Number	1

Regions Affected	
TDEM Regions Affected	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
DDCs Active	7 & 20

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION: On March 16, Governor Abbott directed the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) to activate additional state resources as escalated fire weather conditions continue to impact the state this week. In addition, the Texas State Emergency Operations Center (SOC) is increasing readiness to Level II: Escalated Response for Critical Fire Weather Conditions. Representatives from key state agencies belonging to the Emergency Management Council reported to the SOC on Thursday, March 17 at 7:00 AM CT to assist in the state's response to fire weather conditions.

Personnel from the following state agencies have been requested to report to the SOC:

- Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS)
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
- Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)
- Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)
- Texas Military Department (TMD)
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)
- Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC)
- Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC)
- Texas Animal Health Commission
- Texas A&M AgriLife

The following additional resources have been activated:

- TAMFS: Four firefighting strike teams from the Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS), including 100 firefighters and 20 fire engines
- TMD: Six helicopters with firefighting capability
- TPWD: Two firefighting brush trucks
- EMTF: Two paramedic/advanced life-support Wildland Fire Support Packages

This brings the activated TIFMAS resources to 10 strike teams including approximately 250 firefighters and 50 fire engines.

Texans in the areas of concern are encouraged to create an evacuation plan, heed the guidance of local officials, and create an emergency kit that includes supplies such as food and water, important documents, necessary prescriptions, and other personal items.

The newly-activated assets are mobilizing in addition to state resources that were rostered earlier in the week by the Texas A&M Forest Service, including:

- Six TIFMAS strike teams comprised of approximately 150 firefighters and 30 fire engines
- Fully-staffed task forces located across the state with additional personnel and equipment for support
- Strategically-placed fire line supervisors, command staff, and incident commanders with advanced qualifications
- Aviation resources including: two large airtankers, 12 single engine air tankers, four air attack platforms, three type 1 helicopters, two type 3 helicopters, and one aerial supervision module

Two EMTF Wildland Fire Support Packages were activated; Two EMTF Wildland Fire Support Packages and two Rapid Extraction Modules (REMs) remain on standby to be deployed if necessary.

Texans can visit tfsweb.tamu.edu and ready.gov/wildfires to access wildfire resources and safety tips.

On March 15, Governor Abbott directed TDEM to mobilize state resources as Texas faces increased fire weather conditions this week. The National Weather Service warns high winds and low relative humidity has created heightened risk for wildfires in the western half of the state.

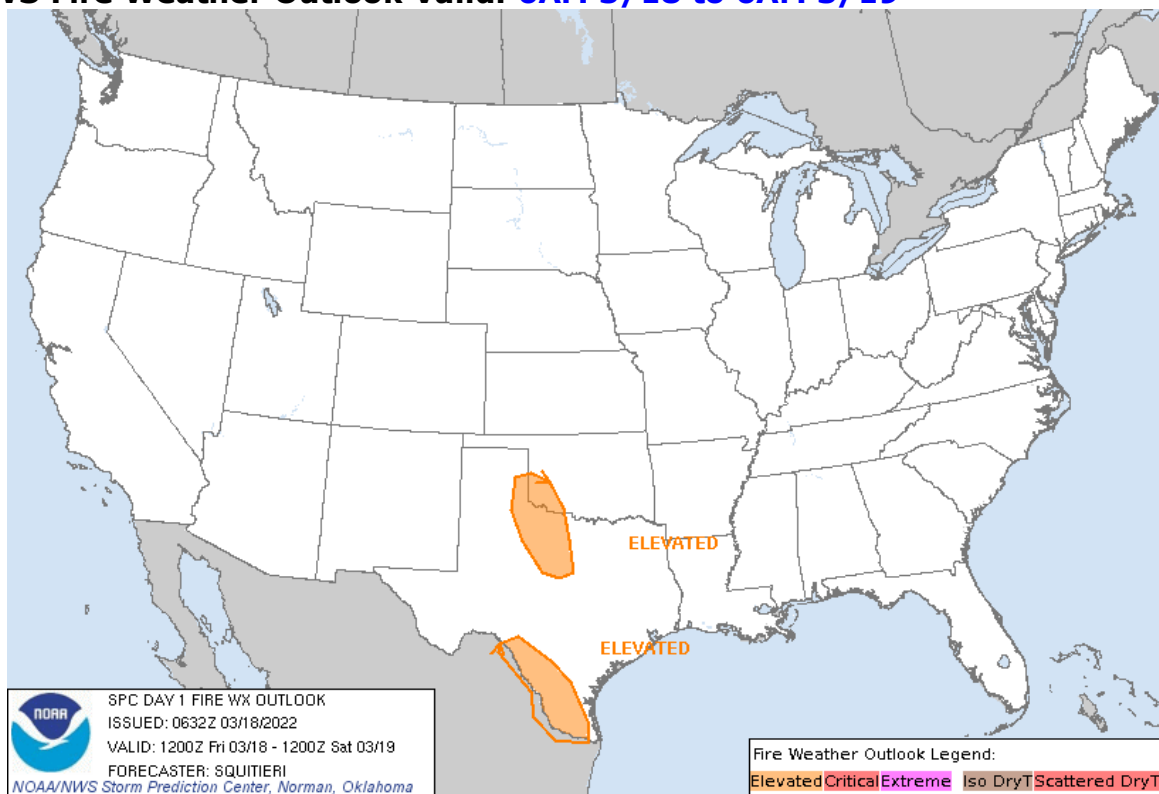
The following resources have been readied by TAMFS: six strike teams from TIFMAS that include approximately 150 firefighters and 30 fire engines. The TAMFS has fully staffed task forces across the state with additional personnel and equipment for support. Fireline supervisors, command staff, and incident commanders with advanced qualifications are strategically placed across the state to respond. Aviation resources are also prepositioned across the state for a quick and effective response and include two large airtankers, 12 single engine air tankers, four air attack platforms, three type 1 helicopters, two type 3 helicopters and one aerial supervision module are currently staged in state for wildfire response.

Four EMTF Wildland Fire Support (WLFS) packages and two Rapid Extraction Modules (REMs) are on standby to be deployed if necessary.

Four UH-60 and 2 CH-47 helicopters.

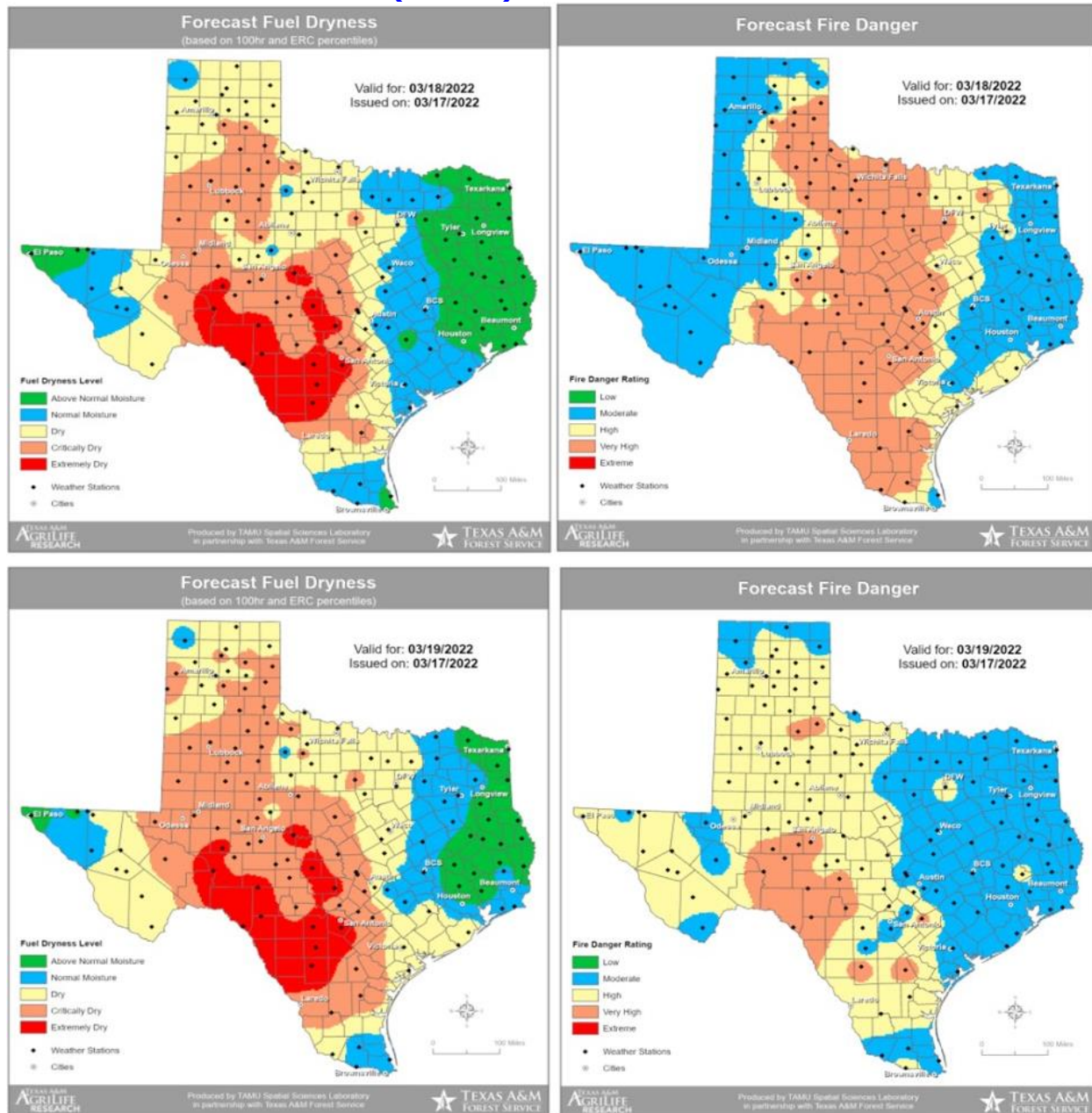
WEATHER:

NWS Fire Weather Outlook Valid: 6AM 3/18 to 6AM 3/19



Day 1 Fire Weather Outlook: 50+ knot mid-level flow trailing a departing upper trough will overspread the southern Plains as breezy, occasionally dry northwesterly surface gradient winds envelop the south-central U.S. between a surface low in the Missouri Valley and high pressure across the central Rockies today. Much of central into western Texas has remained relatively devoid of widespread, meaningful precipitation over the past few days, so fuels are expected to remain very receptive to wildfire spread. Elevated highlights have been introduced where widespread 15-20 mph sustained northwesterly surface winds will most likely overlap with RH dipping to 20 percent by peak heating. Given the rapid departure of the surface low and associated stronger surface winds to the east, the favorable wind/RH overlap is expected to last only a few hours, mainly in the 21-00Z time frame.

Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS) – Predictive Services:



OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:

1. Protect life and property.
2. Support rapid & effective response.

3. Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve decision-making.
4. Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.

Region 1 (Includes DDCs 4, 5, 6, and 22)

DDC 4 – Hurst (Includes: Denton, Erath, Hood, Johnson, Palo Pinto, Parker, Somervell, Tarrant and Wise Counties)

Erath County: Erath 1939: – 175 acres – 0% contained. Crews are on scene of this fire and are currently tying in with local resources before beginning constructing containment line. Operations normal with no unmet needs.

Johnson County: Bono Complex: 197 acres – 100% contained (Combines fires: 1224, 67, and Park Road 21)

Parker County: Sky View: 0.82 acre – 100% contained.

Region 2 (Includes DDCs 13, 14, 15, 16 Houston, 16 Texas City, 16 Conroe, and DDC Pierce)

DDC 14 – Lufkin (Includes: Angelina, Houston, Jasper, Nacogdoches, Newton, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity and Tyler Counties)

Nacogdoches County: Nacogdoches 1542: 1 acre – 100% contained.

Region 3 (Includes DDCs 19, 20, 21, and 24)

DDC 20 – Corpus Christi (Includes: Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Duval, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kleberg, Live Oak, Nueces, Refugio and San Patricio Counties)

DDC 20 increased their readiness level to Level 3 (Increased Readiness Level).

Bee County: Papalote Creek: 146 acres – 100% contained. Crews completed dozer line and are mopping up.

Kleberg County: Los Olmos: 99 acres – 100% contained.

San Patricio County: Meanville: 20.5 acres – 100% contained.

DDC 24 – Del Rio (Includes: Dimmit, Edwards, La Salle, Kinney, Maverick, Real, Uvalde, Val Verde and Zavala Counties)

Dimmit County: Elm Creek: 186 acres – 100% contained.

Maverick County: Burr: 3,500 acres – 95% contained. Crews are continuing to patrol and mop up on this fire, as well as monitor due to Thursday's weather. Operations normal with no unmet needs.

Val Verde County: Brewer Ranch: Unknown acres – uncontained.

Region 4 (Includes DDCs 8, 9, and 10)

DDC 9A – Midland (Includes: Andrews, Borden, Dawson, Ector, Gaines, Glasscock, Howard, Martin, Midland and Winkler Counties)

Andrews County: Zarvona: 80 acres – 100% contained.

Glasscock County: Edmunson: 3,878 acres – 75% contained. Forward progression has been stopped and dozers continue line construction. Dozers continue with line construction. Operations normal with no unmet needs. Ft Stockton resources pulling off the line now.

DDC 10 – San Angelo (Includes: Coke, Concho, Crockett, Irion, Kimble, Mason, McCulloch, Menard, Reagan, Schleicher, Sterling, Sutton and Tom Green Counties)

Irion County: The National Weather Service (NWS) San Angelo office issued a Fire Warning on EAS at 3:56 PM per TAMFS of a large wildfire spreading east toward Barnhart.

Mason County: Mason County submitted a Disaster Declaration on Thursday, March 17.

Reagan County: Chico Lane: 8,000 acres – 80% contained. Currently, there is an oil and gas plant at risk. Reports are that this fire has a good potential for growth. South flank lined and holding. TAMFS equipment working parallel lines on the North flank. TIFMAS ST 129 holding current line and preparing to burn the North lines while winds are favorable. Unknown when ST 129 will be released. Angelo TF should be off the fire soon and estimate I/A ready by 12:00 from San Angelo. ICT3 Fox will be on the fire at 08:00 with STEQ BRAVO. *FEMA DISAPPROVED the Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) on this fire.*

Region 5 (Includes DDCs 1, 2, 3, and 7)

DDC 1 – Amarillo (Includes: Armstrong, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Collingsworth, Dallam, Deaf Smith, Donley, Gray, Hall, Hansford, Hartley, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Moore, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman, Swisher and Wheeler Counties)

Randall County: Hollywood: 166 acres – 90% contained. Forward progression has been stopped on this fire. Dozers have completed containment line with SEATs

currently reinforcing that line. Crews are currently working on holding. Operations normal with no unmet needs. The National Weather Service (NWS) Office in Amarillo issued a Fire Warning on March 17th at 2:49 PM advising of an evacuation area bounded by Farmers Avenue and 1 mile south of 2186 and between Blessen Road and Hill Road. The order was lifted at 5:00 PM by Randall County. Randall County submitted a Disaster Declaration on Thursday, March 17.

DDC 3 – Wichita Falls (Includes: Archer, Baylor, Clay, Cottle, Foard, Hardeman, Jack, Wichita, Wilbarger and Young Counties)

Archer County: Wells: 98 acres – 80% contained. Forward progression stopped.

Archer 1716: 98 acres – 60% contained. Forward progression has been stopped on this fire. Dozers are currently constructing containment lines on the active side of the fire. Operations normal with no unmet needs.

Young County: Brazos Telephone: 128 acres – 100% contained.

DDC 7 – Abilene (Includes: Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Throckmorton and Taylor Counties)

DDC 7 increased their readiness level to Level 3 (Increased Readiness Level).

Brown County: The National Weather Service (NWS) San Angelo issued an Evacuation message on EAS on March 17th at 5:29 PM per Brown County OEM of a fire threatening lives and property in the area between May and Rising Star in Brown and Eastland Counties. Evacuation area is east of Highway 183 from County Road 495 to County Road 436, east to County Road 135 in Comanche County.

Coleman County: The National Weather Service (NWS) San Angelo issued an Evacuation message on EAS per Coleman County of a fire threatening lives and property in the area Southwest of Glen Cove in Western Coleman County moving Northeast at 3:47 PM on March 17. A Fire Warning was issued by NWS San Angelo at 3:58 PM at the request of Coleman County.

Eastland County: Eastland Complex (Kidd, Wheat Field, Oak Mott & Walling Fires) – 39,883 acres – 0% contained. Aviation resources have been ordered for this fire first thing in the morning. Dozers are working on containment line on multiple fires that make up this complex. An ICT3 is now in place on this complex. An order has been placed for a Type 3 Incident Management Team for this fire complex. The Gorman Nursing Home was evacuated to a facility in Brownwood. STAR 07-296841 Request for Livestock Teams from Texas Animal Health Commission. STAR 07-296840 Request for Cadaver Dogs from Texas Engineering Extension Service. *A Fire*

Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) was approved for the Wheat Field Fire by FEMA.

Runnels County: 7,500 acres – 80% contained. TAMFS reports forward progression stopped but right flank is still active. Plan for the night is to tie this flank in and get to all resources off the fire as soon as possible so resources can be back as early as possible in the AM. Crew will have better opportunity to evaluate what they have in the daylight.

Scurry County: St. Cavender's: 100 acres – 100% contained.

Taylor County: The National Weather Service (NWS) San Angelo office issued an Evacuation message on EAS on March 17 at 6:10 PM at the request of the Abilene Fire Department of a fire threatening lives and property in the northeast part of Taylor County and affecting a part of the City of Abilene. The evacuation area is from South of West Highway 80 to North of Military Drive, and from West of Arnold Boulevard to Market Street.

Region 6 (Includes DDCs 11, 12, 17, 18A, 18B, and 23)

DDC 12 – Austin (Includes: Bastrop, Blanco, Burnet, Caldwell, Fayette, Hays, Lee, Llano, Travis and Williamson Counties)

Burnet County: Juniper Trails: 5.7 acres – 100% contained.

DDC 17 – Victoria (Includes: Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Gonzales, Lavaca, Jackson and Victoria Counties)

Gonzales County: Unnamed: 30 acres – 100% contained.

DDC 18 – AARC/Bexar County (Includes: Atascosa, Bexar, Karnes, McMullen, and Wilson Counties)

Atascosa County: Christine: 2,900 acres – 100% contained.

DDC 23 – Killeen (Includes: Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, Milam, Mills and San Saba Counties)

Mills County: 3 Oaks: 3,500 acres – 100% contained.

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

Texas Division of Emergency Management, Texas A&M University System (TDEM): At 7:00 AM, March 17, TDEM increased the readiness of the State

Operations Center (SOC) to Level II (Escalated Response Conditions) for increased fire weather conditions for portions of Texas.

TDEM Disaster Recovery Task Force (DRTF): DRTF monitored the COP for STARS, Teams for support, attending briefs, collaborated with VOAD for assistance if requested.

Sheltering and Feeding partners across the state remain on standby, ready to support any needs that arise.

State Voluntary Agency Liaison (VAL): Continued communication and coordination with Long Term Recovery Groups, VOAD member organizations and nonprofit partner agencies. Organizations are on standby to assist as necessary. Currently no identified unmet needs.

Shelters:

Facility Name	Location	Status	Occupancy
First Baptist Church	405 S Seaman Street, Eastland	Open	15
Gorman Community Center	118 S Kent St, Gorman	Open	
Firstfruits Christian Fellowship	325 W. Lexington	Open	
Gorman Church of Christ	419 N Kent, Gorman	Open	
Eastland FEMA Shelter/Siebert Elementary	100 Little Maverick Trail, Eastland	Open	
Myrtle Wilks Community Center	1498 IH-20W, Cisco	Open	
Texas Cattle Exchange	9009 IH-20, Eastland	Open	Cattle Only
Lazy 3 Animal Care	9991 Hwy 6, Cisco	Open	Cattle and House Pets Only
Coleman Livestock Auction		Available by calling first	Cattle Only

Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS) TAMFS received 10 new requests for wildfire suppression support on Wednesday, March 17. Four of these fires will be staffed by crews today as well as two additional carry-over fires from 3/15/2022.

Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC): The PUC was activated to the Remote SOC effective 7:00 AM, Thursday, March 17. At this time, the PUC has not received reports of significant outages or generation issues due to weather or fire. Statewide, outages were near 10,000 at approximately 2:00 PM, Thursday. The

PUC has reached out to industry members and is standing-by to assist throughout the duration of the event.

Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC): RRC has not received any reports of fire or weather-related natural gas production or distribution issues. RRC district/region personnel will continue to monitor and report major impacts. RRC will continue to support ESF 12 and work with PUC throughout the event.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) – Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF): EMTF activated 2 Wildland Fire Support (WLFS) packages for EMTFs 2, 7 & 9. EMTF placed 2 Wildland Fire Support (WLFS) packages and 3 Rapid Extraction Modules (REM) packages on standby for EMTFs 1, 2, & 11 and is supporting response with 34 personnel.

Texas Military Department (TMD): TMD has activated 2 Wildland Fire Brush Trucks, 2 Medium Rotary Wing MRP and 1 Heavy Rotary Wing MRP to provide direct support to TFS with fire suppression capability in response to critical fire weather. TMD has activated 40 personnel with 2 vehicles and 5 aircraft in support of 22-0009 Wildfire Outbreak 17MAR.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT): Corpus Christi TxDOT filled a local STAR for fuel support to Bee County for the Papalote Creek fire. All 25 TxDOT Districts have been provided the NWS & TDEM Fire Weather Outlooks. TxDOT Districts in impacted area are posting fire information on Digital Message Signs for public awareness. TxDOT is staffing the Remote SOC.

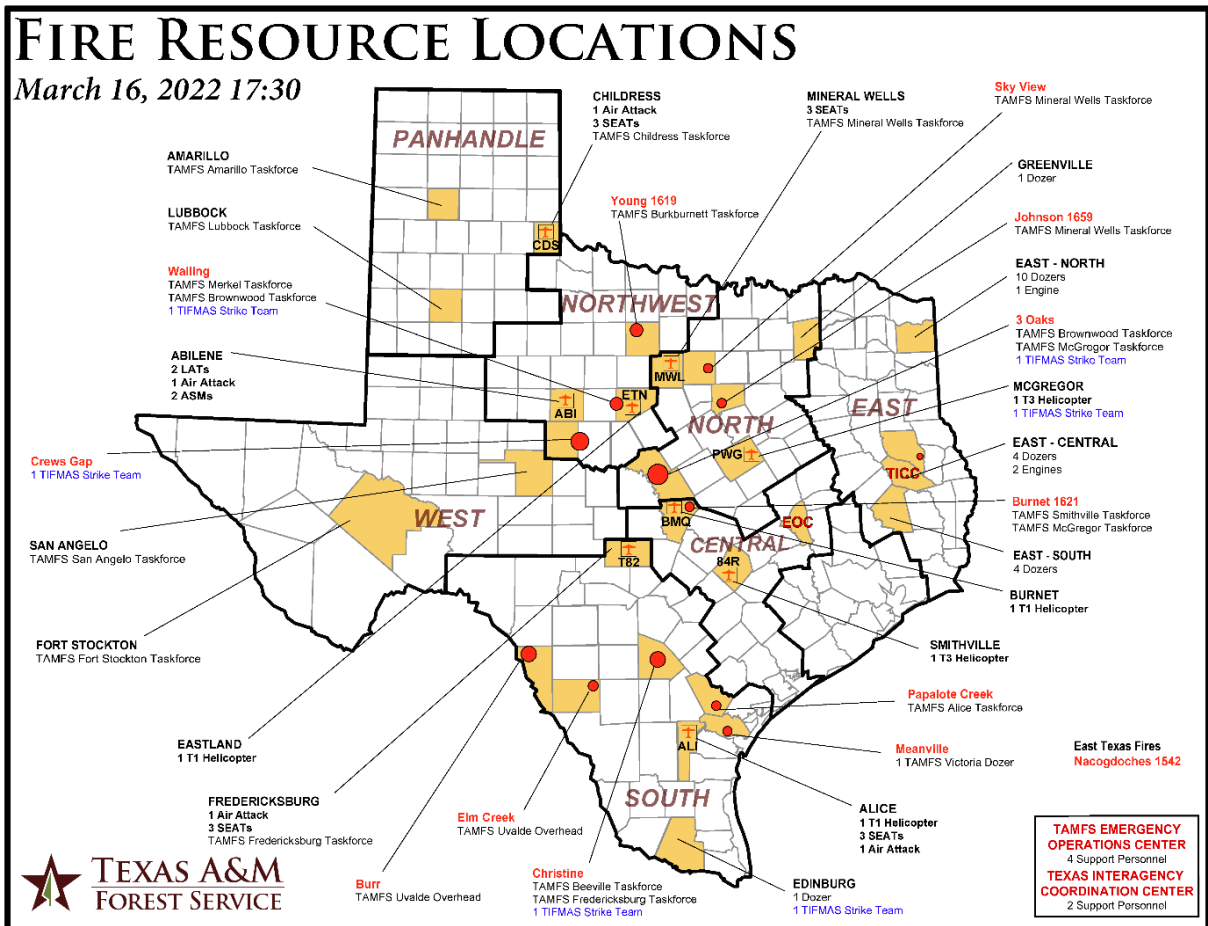
Texas Department of Public Safety (TXDPS): The TXDPS has ensured the readiness of statewide resources to appropriately respond to this fire outbreak and weather event. Texas Highway Patrol (THP) troopers and other DPS personnel are fully prepared to respond as conditions dictate. Affected THP Disaster District Chairs are communicating with applicable state and local officials as needed.

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TDEM DRTF	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC
TAMFS	Aerial Supervision Aircraft (AA)		1	Available	Childress
TAMFS	Single Engine Air Tanker (SEATs)		3	Available	Childress

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TAMFS	Large Air Tanker (LAT)		3	Available	Abilene
TAMFS	Aerial Supervision Aircraft (AA)		1	Available	Abilene
TAMFS	Aerial Supervision Aircraft (ASM)		1	Available	Abilene
TAMFS	Aerial Supervision Aircraft (ASM)		1	Available	Abilene
TAMFS	Aerial Supervision Aircraft (AA)		1	Available	Fredericksburg
TAMFS	Single Engine Air Tanker (SEATs)		3	Available	Fredericksburg
TAMFS	Single Engine Air Tanker (Fire Boss)		3	Available	Mineral Wells
TAMFS	Type 3 Helicopter		1	Available	McGregor
TAMFS	Type 3 Helicopter		1	Available	Smithville
TAMFS	Type 1 Helicopter		1	Available	Eastland
TAMFS	Type 1 Helicopter		1	Available	Alice
TAMFS	Aerial Supervision Aircraft (AA)		1	Available	Alice
TAMFS	Single Engine Air Tanker (SEATs)		3	Available	Alice
TAMFS	Type 1 Helicopter		1	Available	Burnet
TAMFS	TAMFS Taskforce	13 Taskforces		Available	Various
TAMFS	TAMFS Dozer Strike Team	2 STs		Available	McGregor
TAMFS	Dozer/Tractor Plow		23	Available	Various
TIFMAS	TIFMAS ST	25	5	Available	Mineral Wells

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TIFMAS	TIFMAS ST	25	5	Available	San Angelo
TIFMAS	TIFMAS ST	25	5	Available	Pleasanton
TIFMAS	TIFMAS ST	25	5	Available	Edinburg
TIFMAS	TIFMAS ST	25	5	Available	McGregor
TIFMAS	TIFMAS ST	25	5	Available	Merkel
TIFMAS	TIFMAS ST	25	5	Available	Eastland
TIFMAS	TIFMAS ST	25	5	Available	Marble Falls
TIFMAS	TIFMAS Coordinators	2		Available	College Station & Merkel
DSHS EMTF	SOC Liaison	1		Available	R-SOC
PUC	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC
RRC	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC
TCEQ	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC
TMD	Blackhawks (Shiner 17 & 18)		2	Available	Austin
TMD	Blackhawks (Alamo 10 & 85)		2	Available	San Antonio
TMD	Chinook (Hookmaster 1)		1	Available	Grand Prairie
TMD	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC
TPWD	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC
TxDOT	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC
TXDPS	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC



FINAL COMMENTS: The State Operations Center (SOC) remains at Level II (Escalated Response Conditions) for COVID-19 pandemic response with additional staffing for Wildfire Outbreak response. The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) continues to monitor these situations and will provide additional situation reports as needed.

The four levels of SOC activation are:

Level I	(Emergency Conditions)
Level II	(Escalated Response Conditions)
Level III	(Increased Readiness Conditions)
Level IV	(Normal Conditions)

This Situation Report can be found on the TDEM webpage at:
<https://tdem-web.webflow.io/response/state-operations-center#tab-2>

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